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tory workers, incited by the more enlightened among them. Similarly, an effective regulation of sweat-shops will most probably follow a vigorous movement on the part of the victims themselves, doubtless through unions. The theory that men should be left to sell their labor without interference by the state may be a bad theory ; and it is certainly often rejected in legislative practice ; but if rejected as to individuals, it still commonly prevails as to classes of work-people.

A. P. WINSTON.

Les grèves. By LEON DE SEILHAC. Paris : Victor Le Coffre, 1903. 8vo, pp. vii + 257.

M. DE SEILHAC's work is not devoid of interest ; it presents in fragmentary fashion a considerable array of facts and somewhat intelligent comment, which doubtless justify its publication as a contribution to the popular literature of the subject. An American reader will probably be interested most in the pages which present excellently (in strong contrast with what we know here) the French law of strikes and of workmen's combinations, as the law has been judicially interpreted and enforced. The method of the work as a whole is, however, purely narrative, and not at all analytic, and it can scarcely be said to offer anything substantially new or peculiarly valuable.

A. P. W.

Le paysan et la crise rurale: Notice sur la dépopulation des campagnes, ses causes, ses effets, et ses remèdes. By ACHILLE MAGNIER. Paris : Librairie des Publications officielles et du Bulletin des Lois, Georges Roustan, 1902. 12mo, pp. 141.

THE desertion of country-side for city by-ways, and the causes and social consequences of migration into urban communities, has fallen under the facile pen of M. Achille Magnier—poet, romancer, humanitarian, philosopher, and writer of prize essays for the *Société nationale d'encouragement au bien*. According to M. Magnier, the population problem in France resolves itself, in the last analysis, into the problem of rural depopulation. It is in agricultural sections that natural increase of population is most rapid, and the retardation of growth of the French population as a whole is explained as a direct consequence of the very general migration which has taken place out of the country into the city—a movement which has involved some 13 per cent. of the total French population, or approximately five millions of people, during the last fifty years. This is felt to be a serious condition by those who believe, as does M. Magnier, that the political future of